

Message Text

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ACTION PER-05

INFO OCT-01 NEA-05 ISO-00 SY-03 MMS-03 SS-20 SPC-03 ABF-01

/041 W

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P R 200400Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1389

INFO AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

UNCLAS ABU DHABI 0300

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: APER, TC

SUBJ: SECRETARIAL ASSISTANCE

1. MRS LINDA COWARD EMBASSY'S LOCALLY HIRED PART-TIME SECRETARY INFORMED EMB MARCH 19TH THAT SHE FORCED RESIGN FOR PERSONAL REASONS EFFECTIVE SAME DATE. POST AWARE PAST SEVERAL WEEKS THAT PERSONAL CONSIDERATIONS MIGHT NECESSITATE MRS COWARDS RESIGNATION. POST REQUESTS IMMEDIATE CANCELLATION OF MRS COWARD'S SECURITY INVESTIGATION.

2. MRS COWARD'S UNTIMELY RESIGNATION PLACES POST IN EXTREMELY DIFFICULT POSITION. SINCE LEARNING OF POSSIBLE RESIGNATION WE HAVE CANVASSED THE LOCAL AMERICAN COMMUNITY AND CANNOT IDENTIFY ANY QUALIFIED PERSON WILLING TO WORK EVEN PART-TIME. ALTHOUGH WE ARE CON

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TINUING OUR SEARCH FOR LOCAL HIRE REPLACEMENT, PROSPECTS LOOK DIM, THEREFORE EMB BELIEVES NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO REQUEST DEPT TO RAISE LOCALLY HIRED HALF SECRETARIAL POSITION TO FULL POSITION TO BE FILLED BY WORLD-WIDE AVAILABLE AMERICAN SECRETARY.

3. REALIZING THAT FUNDING OR OTHER ADMIN REASONS MAY DELAY ALLOCATIO
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OF FULL SECRETARIAL POSITION TO ABU DHABI COMPLEMENT, POST REQUESTS AS STOP-GAP MEASURE SENDING OF TDY SECRETARY. THE FIVE AMERICAN OFFICERS ARE CURRENTLY GENERATING SUFFICIENT WORK TO EASILY JUSTIFY THE NEED FOR A FULL TIME AMERICAN SECRETARY. EVEN WITH COWARD'S
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PART-TIME ASSISTANCE, POST HAS ACCUMULATED LARGE BACK LOG OF WORK,

ESPECIALLY IN COMMERCIAL FIELD WHICH CANNOT BE HANDLED BY LOCAL
EMPLOYEES. AS A RESULT OUR EFFECTIVENESS IS BEING GREATLY CURTAILED.
ONLY STOP-GAP NOW AVAILABLE IS PART-TIME USE OF SEMI-SKILLED WIVES OF
EMPLOYEES, WHO BECAUSE OF OTHER COMMITMENTS CANNOT DEVOTE FULL TIME T
O
EMBASSY WORK. IF TDY SECRETARY ASSIGNED FOR 60-90 DAY PERIOD,
SHE WOULD BE HOUSED IN HOTEL.

4. SINCE DEPT HAS ALREADY AUTHORIZED PART-TIME SECRETARY (SEE STATE
056418 DATED 3/27/73) INCREASE IN COMPLEMENT THAT POST ACTUALLY
REQUESTING AMOUNTS TO ONLY ONE HALF POSITION. THUS IT SHOULD BE
NOTED WOULD CONSTITUTE ONE OF TWO AMERICAN SECRETARIAL POSITIONS
INCLUDED IN PROPOSED PERSONNEL AUGMENTATION PACKAGE. AMBASSADOR
CONCURS SUBSTANCE THIS MSG.
GRIFFIN

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